

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of treating the psychophysiological effects of ~~for modulating behavioral and neurological adaptive responsiveness to~~ stress including anxiety comprising the step of applying to the ~~brain or~~ central nervous system a therapeutically effective amount of an inhibitor ~~to the~~ of DP dipeptidyl peptidase IV (DP IV) enzyme or of DP IV - like enzyme whereby enzymatic activity of said enzyme is reduced.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for reducing degradation of the endogenous, CNS-localized neuropeptide Y (NPY) and other substrates sharing similar properties as neuropeptide Y comprising the step of providing to the site where such degradation is desired a therapeutically effective amount of a competitive inhibitor of the dipeptidyl peptidase (DP IV ~~or CD-26~~) or of DP IV - like enzyme.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein application of said inhibitors results in therapy of psychosomatic, depressive and neuropsychiatric diseases selected from the group consisting of anxiety disorders, depression, insomnia, chronic fatigue, schizophrenia, epilepsy, eating disorders, spasm and chronic pain.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said inhibitors ~~will be~~ is present in a physiologically compatible drug delivery vehicle.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said inhibitors ~~are~~ is formulated as prodrugs of the free inhibitors.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claims 1 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors are applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said inhibitors ~~will be~~ is present in a physiologically compatible drug delivery vehicle.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said inhibitors~~are~~ is formulated as prodrugs of the free inhibitors.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein said inhibitors~~are~~ is formulated as prodrugs of the free inhibitors.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors~~are~~ is applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors~~are~~ is applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors~~are~~ is applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein said DP IV-inhibitors~~are~~ is applied parenterally, enterally, orally, by inhalation or suppository.